Short Circuits

TARC Newsletter

February, 2005

Titusville Amateur Radio Club
T. A. R. C
Titusville, Florida

Club Officers

President Bud Hughes, K4CWG 269-2796 k4cwg@cfl.rr.com	**Vice President** Jose` Ramos, KC4VIO 267-5892 kc4vio@yahoo.com	**Secretary-Treasurer** Becky Lee, KF4HTB 267-9375 lees@titusvillearc.org	PO Box 73 Titusville, FL 32781-0073
Board Member Pike Abell, W4EPU 269-4208 pikeatal@digital.net	**Board Member** John Renninger, KE4ZPA 267-9431 ke4zpa@gnc.net	**Board Member** Mic Woltman, KI4CFA 632-4601 mjwoltman@mindspring.com	**Board Member** Bob Farrington, W4YBI 633-5664 bobandlinda3@juno.com
146.91 Repeater Trustee Les Griner, K4SJC 267-1565	**146.97 Repeater Trustee** Warren Murray, W4CEL pager - 638-5476	**444.15 Repeater Trustee** Mike Hensley, W4LOV 639-1553	**147.775 Repeater Trustee** Ken Denman, KD4HNW 269-5711

Next Meeting Tuesday February 22nd at 7:30 PM
Tutusville Public Library, 2121 South Hopkins Avenue

The President's Page

Thank you Senior Jose for the selection of our January TARC Program. Lisa of the Titusville Police Department made a very informative presentation of how the 911-Telephone system works.

There were bargains galore available at the Orlando Ham Fest February 11-12-13. TARC had two tables and for all three days the tables were pretty well stocked with equipment from the estate of our silent keys Bill Karr W9IOS, Don Klein KC3RQ, Cliff Hoag KC4SYD. And yes yours truly along with several other club members placed items on the table.

Much Kudos and many thanks are extended to our fellow club members who assisted in manning the tables. I know the spouses appreciate your help in the disposal of the various pieces of ham equipment. I am personally pleased and gratified with the results of your labor.

More President's Corner

On Saturday, **April 9, 2005** NASA is sponsoring "KSC ALL AMERICAN PICNIC AND RETURN TO FLIGHT RALLY" at KARS PARK in North Merritt Island." As a result of the many hams who gave their time and talents in providing communication services between the evacuation shelters and the EOC during the recent storms, TARC has been asked to participate in this exercise by setting up a ham station and demonstrating amateur radio to those in attendance at the picnic. TARC will be furnished a 10X20 tent, 3 Tables and 10 chairs. The price of the meals will be $5.00 each. We will have more information regarding this picnic as the time passes and will make the same available to you. This picnic is 6-7 weeks away so please plan on attending if you can. Should you need transportation to and from the park please let me know.

I want to thank Mic KI4FCA, John K1KSC and others for their support given to Les K4SJC in keeping the 146.91 machine up and running. We hope to have the 146.775 (KD4HNW) Repeater in Hog Valley back on the air soon.

Our next club meeting will meet at the North Brevard Public Library on Tuesday February 22. Hope to see you there.

As always best wishes, 73s and 88s, Bud K4CWG

The Vice Squad By Jose` Ramos KC4VIO TARC Vice President

I am glad you enjoyed the Titusville Police Department 911 presentation during our last meeting. Do you know how to speed dial 911 from your 2 meter rig? There is also another police department line you can speed dial for other purposes. We'll tell you how at our next meeting.

Do not under estimate the power of one watt. You will be surprised when you hear our next guest speaker's presentation "Mr. Watt And All His Friends". You do not want to miss this one. Bring another Ham with you.

KC4VIO, José

Abell's Anecdotes By Pike Abell W4EPU

Several years ago Walking Catfish in South Florida raised concerns that, in no time, they would take over the waterways. Scary as it sounded, that never happened. The fish traveled across land and even roads by undulating with stiffened pectoral fins and a body rocking motion. How they know there is a pond ahead remains a mystery.

Now the subject has again reared its ugly head. In Broward County numerous sightings of walking catfish, crossing roads, has been reported. The subject of the walking catfish reminds me of the time when I was a young boy living on the farm in Arkansas. My uncle occasionally took me fishing. One time he caught a 7-1/2 pound catfish. At the time it was the biggest fish I had ever seen.

Abells' Anecdotes Con't

Obviously I wanted it in the worst way. He put it on a stringer, we baited our hooks and threw our lines back in the water. While we were fishing he told me a story he had heard about a person who trained a catfish to live out of water. He simply took it out of water for a few minutes a day. Each day keeping it out a little longer than the day before. Eventually the catfish would become accustomed to it and could stay out indefinitely. He told me that if I would be willing to try training him, he would give me the fish. I told him I would, because in fact, I would agree to anything if I could just have that fish.

We had a small spring fed pond behind the barn in which I put the catfish. Just as my uncle explained it, I kept it out of water more and more each day until finally one day I went to the pond and the fish was not there. I heard a commotion in the chicken yard. I went to investigate. There the catfish was playfully chasing the chickens. I never put him back in the water again.

Several weeks later I took him to the county fair, just to show him off. I won a blue ribbon by default, because actually I was the only person at the Fair who displayed a non-aquatic fish. On the way home I was walking and carrying my pet catfish. I was crossing a bridge when I looked down and saw fish swimming in the stream below. I laid my catfish down on the bridge and was watching the fish . The catfish flopped off the bridge and fell into the water. I ran to the end of the bridge, down the bank, into the water and retrieved him, but it was too late. He had already drowned.

73es88 Pike

Minutes of the January Meeting

The meeting was called to order by president Bud Hughes, K4CWG. After the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence, members and guests introduced themselves.

Bud told the club about the 2005 club birthday calendar that Sherry KU4ZO has prepared. In addition to club member birthdays, for each month there are candid photographs of members which were taken at various club functions throughout 2004. There is a limited supply of these calendars available to members for $5.00 each.

Bud also updated the members on the sale of equipment for families of Silent Keys. He also talked about the upcoming Orlando Hamfest where the club will have 3 tables for selling surplus equipment.

He then turned the meeting over to Vice President Jose Ramos KC4VIO who in turn introduced Lisa Di Liberto assisted by Titusville Police Sgt. John Richardson who presented a most interesting program on how 911 works.

During the social house, Les Griner K4SJC was honored with a birthday cake for his 89th birthday. He was also presented with a pair of red suspenders. It seems that the new thinner Les has had some trouble lately keeping his trousers on.

By Becky Lee KF4HTB, Club Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance 1/1/05	$2,894.35
Deposits in 2005	62.00
Total Income	$2,956.35
YTD Expenditures	- 541.00
Balance as at 1/31/05	$2,415.35

Titusville Amateur Radio Club
P. O. Box 73
Titusville, FL 32781-0073

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Membership Renewals
KI4BFA WES BURZEE
AE4CB DAVID HURST
KV4DC ROE WEAVER
N3DMI BOB GREEN
KD4DOJ FAYE SKIDMORE
KC4DPP ALAN HOBRON
KC2ENO ART SMITH
N2JY JUDY SMITH
W4GBW CHARLES MOREHOUSE
KI4GMH CHARLES MILLER
K4GPF JOE MYERS
KD4JBL WILLIE WILLIAMS
WD4JLT BRIAN SONENBERG
WB8PXO JAMES MORGAN
LF4QML KEVIN ZIMMERMAN
KK4SH VINCE GONZALEZ
KE4MYC JEAN GONZALEZ
AE4WM MITCH MATHENY
W4YBI BOB FARRINGTON
W4YFN LINDA FARRINGTON

Field Day already?

June seems so very far away, but Field Day 2005 will be here before you know it and members of the Titusville Amateur Radio Club need to start thinking about it.

Many of our new ham members have never participated in a Field Day before. This is a great opportunity to see how amateur radio really works, what makes an antenna hum and how to contact other hams all across the country who are "roughing" it to prove that they can provide real communications in even the worst possible conditions.

Warren Murray W4CEL has agreed to be chairman of the Field Day 2005 operations, but he cannot do it alone. YOU need to mark your calendar now for JUNE 24-25. Plan to roll up your sleeves and help hoist the wires and polls, then get set to enjoy what ham radio does best. Of course, there will be time for "dinner on the grounds" - this is TARC, after all - but we'll also need to plan to help pack away the equipment afterward. One or two people simply cannot do it all. WE NEED YOU!!!

For Sale

HF Transceiver ICOM IC-720A with matching 20 AMPS Power Supply and external speaker.

Covers 10 thru 80 Ham bands. Nice looking set that will look good in your shack. Great for beginners or old timers. $300 firm. Jose, KC4VIO. 267-5892. Call now or see it at the next club meeting if not sold by then.